

Sports & Entertainment

Karissa Ella returns to her Ohio roots in heartfelt new single ‘Hall of Fame’ now available; New EP ‘Growing Wings’ debuting on July 11

NASHVILLE, Tenn. ,May 30, 2025 – Rising country artist Karissa Ella pays tribute to the people and place that shaped her in her brand-new single, “Hall of Fame” — out now! Karissa returns to her roots in this emotionally rich track that honors the everyday heroes in small-town America — from teachers and coaches to factory workers and neighbors who left a lasting mark on her heart.

Alongside the single release, Karissa is thrilled to announce her upcoming EP, *Growing Wings*, set to drop on July 11. This song collection marks a powerful next chapter in her career, packed with vulnerability, strength, and the unmistakable spirit of an artist on the rise. Building on the momentum of her previous projects, *Growing Wings* is sure to generate buzz among fans and industry tastemakers alike.

“‘Hall of Fame’ was born out of pride for the place that raised me. I wrote it to honor the kind of people who never ask for recognition but deserve all of it.



These are the blue-collar heroes who built their towns with calloused hands and hearts full of pride. In this song, I reflect on what my hometown used to be and how it's changed over time—but also how the best parts have stayed the same because of the people who made it what it is. This song shines a light on the places and people that might not make headlines—but to me, they're hall of famers” said Karissa.

The track arrives just as Karissa prepares to perform at Country Fest this summer, one of Ohio’s biggest country music festivals,

opening for Dierks Bentley, Zach Top, and more — making this a full-circle hometown moment in her fast-rising career. She’ll also play Country Concert in July, another major festival in Ohio!

Karissa Ella has garnered praise from CMT, Taste of Country, PEOPLE, and Country Rebel, recognized for her ability to seamlessly blend traditional country influences with a modern, soulful flair. “Hall of Fame” adds another layer to her growing catalog — a love letter not just to her hometown, but to anyone who believes the real legends are the ones who shape us quietly, every day.

About Karissa Ella
Karissa Ella is quickly becoming one of the most exciting voices in country music, capturing hearts with her soulful sound and magnetic energy. Recognized by

CMT, Taste of Country, PEOPLE Magazine, and more, Karissa’s music effortlessly bridges the gap between nostalgic country roots and today’s fresh, dynamic vibe. Think of her as a mix of Dolly’s timeless charm, Miranda’s fiery spirit, and Shania’s trailblazing confidence, all rolled into one Ohio-raised powerhouse. A proud Belmont University graduate, Karissa’s journey from small-town dreamer to a rising force in country music is nothing short of inspiring. Her self-titled debut EP and her sophomore release, Blossom, each showcased her gift for storytelling and authenticity. In 2023, she unveiled her third EP, It’s Personal, a deeply heartfelt project that struck a chord with fans and critics alike. Now, she’s back in the studio working on her highly anticipated fourth EP, set to drop this

summer. Karissa’s live performances are a must-see. Whether she’s headlining at iconic venues like the ACM-nominated Dusty Armadillo or sharing the stage with country favorites like Martina McBride, Tyler Hubbard, and David Nail, she brings an energy that’s impossible to resist. With sing-along-worthy anthems like “Well Tequila” and “I Hope Heaven’s Like,” she turns every show into an unforgettable experience. And let’s not forget her magical performance of “He Walked on Water” for Randy Travis at the Country Rebel Ranch, talk about a pinch-me moment!

With big dreams and even bigger talent, Karissa is poised to keep climbing and taking fans along for the ride. Keep up with her latest music and tour dates at her official website. www.karissaella.com

Email entertainment news to MSTentertainment@prodigy.net

Tigers sign Memphis native Daejah Richmond to 2025-26 team lineup

MEMPHIS, Tenn. May 29, 2025 – Memphis women’s basketball signed junior guard Daejah Richmond to the 2025-26 team, the program announced. Richmond spent the prior season at UT Martin, where she averaged 8.9 points, 3.7 rebounds and 2.5 assists in nearly 25 minutes per contest.

“Daejah brings experience and tenacity to our team. Her experience will be priceless and she will compete from day one on campus,” said head coach Alex Simmons. She is from Memphis and has genuine pride about representing her city.”

A defensive playmaker at the guard position, the 5-foot-8 Richmond led the team with 1.9 steals per game for a Skyhawks squad that was top 100 in turnovers forced (BartTorvik.com). Under guidance from new Memphis assistant coach Garner Small, Richmond ranked fourth

in the Ohio Valley Conference in steals and sixth in steals per conference game.

Richmond spent her freshman season at Southeast Missouri, making five starts and averaging 16.8 minutes per contest. She has shown tremendous durability in her first two collegiate seasons, playing in all 61 of her teams’ games through two years.

A Memphis native, Richmond attended First Assembly Christian School where she was a first team all-district honoree in 2021-22. She competed for Team Real Deal on the club circuit for WNBA champion and Memphis native Ashley Shields.

Richmond becomes the sixth guard to join the Tigers in the transfer portal, teaming up with Chae Harris (Fordham), Jordan Hunter (Auburn), Cori Allen (Illinois) and Brooklyn and Kennedy Alexander (Tulsa). Paris Gaines (Georgia Southern) and

Amauri Williams (Prairie View A&M) have also joined as front-court players.

For complete information on Memphis Tigers Basketball, visit www.GoTigersGo.com and follow the team's social media channels on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.



FedEx St. Jude Championship and Big River Steel to honor military; Ticket packages offer to military members from sports-Military page 2

Played August 6-10 at TPC Southwind, the FedEx St. Jude Championship features the top 70 players in the FedExCup Playoffs and Eligibility Points List at the conclusion of the regular season. The City of Memphis has held a PGA TOUR event every year since 1958, and 2025 will mark Memphis’ fourth year hosting a Playoffs event. Since 1970, Memphis’ PGA TOUR stop has raised more than \$80 million for the tournament’s primary charitable beneficiary, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, helping to ensure patients’ families never receive a bill and can focus solely on helping their child.

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phis has posted an impressive 53-9 (.855) record at Simmons Bank Liberty Stadium since head coach Ryan Silverfield took over the program.

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